

*From Arthur Iredell*

Guildford Augt. 5th. 88

My dear Brother

Since I last wrote to You I have undertaken the Curacy of this Place, which is very laborious, & occupies by far the greater Part of my Time, for I write my own Sermons. Tom's old Friend Lord Onslow is the great Man of the Place, & has been very civil to me; but my greatest Comfort, & the chief Inducement I had for coming here, is my good Friend Captn. Wilson whom Tom likewise knows.<sup>1</sup> I live almost entirely in his Family, & am more obliged to him than I can tell you. All this sounds as if I had taken root in Surry; but the fact is not so. I shall leave this Place, I believe, very soon & remove into Sussex, where I can get, at least, as good an Income, with less to do—& be in the neighborhood of Malling, to which I am greatly attached.<sup>2</sup>

My Circumstances, you will observe, are not materially changed for the better. I am still one of the Slaves to Hope, & shall be for some time to come—however the Tide will turn, & I will follow Shakespeare's Advice & take it at the full<sup>3</sup>—

Pray have you never received a small deal Box, that left this Country last October in the Friendship Captn. Samuel Milford, bound for Virginia?—It was directed to the Care of Mr. Diack, & a Receipt for It signed by Peter Smith is now before me. It contained a few Law Books which, tho of very little Value, I would yet wish you to receive.

There is no very Material News circulating at home, I mean on this Island—A very violent Contest for Westminster has just terminated in favour of Lord John Townshend the popular Candidate<sup>4</sup>—The King is drinking the Cheltenham Waters.<sup>5</sup> The Russians have just obtained a signal Naval Victory over the Turks<sup>6</sup>—The French are still at loggerheads among themselves, & Your American General the Marquis de la Fayette, is cooped up for taking too forward a Part<sup>7</sup>—These are all the Topics I can think of—for my being lately elected with the D of Richmond's Nephew & some others a Freeman of Seaford, tho it did get into the Papers has not, I think, made such a Noise over the Island as might reasonably have been expected<sup>8</sup>—But, to be more domestick, My Mother's Health is of late much restored, & She is now tolerably well—Would to God She were comfortably settled with you; but it is not, & God only knows when it will be in my Power to furnish her with the Means of getting to You—She has desired me to mention her most affecttely to you all, for She feels too lazy at present to write herself. My dear Fanny is just exerting all Sisterly Attention upon Mrs. Bayley who last Week presented a very fine Boy to